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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of )

**John E. Mercer** )

Serial No: **Not Yet Assigned** )

Filed: **July 3, 2001** )

For: **BORING TOOL CONTROL USING REMOTE LOCATOR** )

Examiner: **Sunil Singh (anticipated)**

Art Unit: **3672 (anticipated)**

Attorney Docket: **DCI-15C2**

Date: **July 3, 2001**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 3, 2001.

Signed: 

Jay R Beyer

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment which is being filed together with the subject application.

In the claims

✓ Please cancel claim 1 as well as claims 2-38 as indicated in the application transmittal. Also, please add new claims 39-96 as indicated below.

39. In a drilling system for performing underground boring including a drill rig and a boring tool which is configured for moving through the ground under control of the drill rig to form an underground bore, a monitoring arrangement comprising:

a detection arrangement at said drill rig for monitoring at least one operational parameter to produce a data signal relating to at least one of a utility to be installed in the underground bore, the drill rig and the boring tool;

a portable device configured for receiving the data signal relating to the operational parameter for use by the portable device; and

a communication arrangement for transferring the data signal from the drill rig to the portable device.

~~40. The monitoring arrangement of Claim 39 wherein said communication arrangement includes a telemetry link between the drill rig and the portable device for transferring the data signal to the portable device.~~